

Southern Regional News

Southerners share a laugh with readers

Tampa, FL—The Tampa Bay Gasparilla Distance Classic was held on February 2, and **K mart 4311's** own Christine Mueller, better known as Cash Cage Christie, competed. The 9.3 mile endurance race had 1,475 entries. After one hour and 39 minutes, Christie crossed the finish line placing 982nd.

Christie, 17, is a senior at Brandon High School.

Houston, TX—A sweet little old lady came up to Mel Stewart, appliance manager at **K mart 3331**, and asked, "Could you help me, sonny?" He answered surely, and she led him to a nearby counter.

"I want a TV antenna just like that one," she said, pointing to a display. "I'll be happy to sell that item," Mel said, "but that is not an antenna, it's a clothesline." **Savannah, GA**—One of the hottest numbers at **K mart 4189** is the



T-shirt display. Passing the men's and boys' department one hears guffaws and put-downs from customers reading the shirts. Joining the fun are Mr. Bradanick and Vina Gregory (see photo left) from that department. **Johnson City, TN**—It was just one of those days for "Julie" at **K mart 4050**. Leaving the toy department, in only 20 minutes at the checkouts she lost an ink pen, a pencil and ripped her pants six inches in the seat. Perhaps she should get a medal for valor at the front?

Atlanta, GA—Who's the man in the hat at the **Southern Regional Office**? Why, it's "good ole Joe"

Thomas, assistant regional manager. He says he has to wear the hat because of 1978's heavy construction schedule.

Looking on is "Smiling Jack" Winslow, regional merchandising manager, photo below.



Achievers singled out

Madison, TV—Jane Gregory, an employee of **K mart 4093** for six years, truly exemplifies the friendly recognition begun in the stores last year.

She always has a smile and kind word for customers and employees, and the staff recognized her efforts by selecting her employee of the year for 1977.



Jane Gregory

Charleston, SC—Check-out cashiers Celestine Mack and Pat Williams each have a real eye for spotting price changes at their jobs.

Pat has consistently won the monthly cash award at **K mart 3080** for price change detection, and she's rarely wrong.

How can she tell when a price has been changed? "It just won't look right. A pin ticket would be crooked, or a senso label would be wrinkled. I could just tell it had been changed," Pat says.



Celestine Mack, I, and Pat Williams.

Stores send news & views

Augusta, GA—Lucky for **K mart 4135** employees and customers alike when the Statler Brothers, in Augusta for a concert, developed bus trouble and couldn't leave town on schedule.

They decided to come shopping at **K mart 4135** while their bus was being repaired. Quite a bit of excitement was generated when the customers and staff recognized them; they were gracious enough to sign autographs and pose for a photo with Manager Johnson and Personnel Manager Jean Stout.

The Statler Brothers were recently selected as the best Country singing group of the year.

Hollywood, FL—The occasion demanded note: It was a comparison of two employees, entwining imaginations. Debbie Adams, 17 years old, offered the thought that she had worked only 15 days at **K mart 4296**. Training her for her job was Lucienne Miot, a 15-year veteran. And, Lucienne had been hired at Kresge 15, Albany, NY, just five days after landing in the states from Australia.

Lucienne transferred to 4296 in 1973, and is personnel supervisor. "I can't picture myself 15 years from now," said Debbie, "but I hope I'm still working for K mart." She sees many opportunities for advancement. Lucienne, who started at the checkouts, had to agree with the rookie.

Sebring, FL—"K mart, I think your (sic) the best store in the world!" begins 7½-year-old Melissa in her letter to **K mart 9024**. "The prices are really great, you couldn't find prices like that anywhere."

"And besides that, you have things that kids and adults didn't even know of. Like one time I went in there to get my friend a gift for Christmas and we saw lots of things we hadn't seen in any other store we've been to."

"I saw a piece of jewelry I liked, but my mother said I was too young for what I was looking at. I still think you have nice jewelry tho."

Melissa says her family always shops at 9024, and believes in the K mart jingle. "In your song when it says 'K mart is your saving store' your right, K mart IS your saving store."

Go, K mart, go!

Columbia, SC—Loyal teamwork and tough competition is boosting the sales atmosphere at **K mart 3168**. Departments K-1, K-2 and K-3 have divided into teams and each is determined to have the largest percentage of sales increase for spring. Prizes and plaques will be awarded, and the losers will have to cook breakfast for the winners.

Everyone is so excited, they had to get a backup—an extra battery for the blue light.



Key-1 personnel complete with T-shirts handmade for the contest.

Barbee plant in full bloom this month

Statesville, NC—Few people are as proud of their plant department as Dixon Barbee is. He's assistant manager at **K mart 9508** and is always creative in his plant display.

Often he combines several plants into one container, for a beautiful and unusual effect. Customers who see his work either buy the arrangement or buy the plants and make their own arrangements.

The most original creation at 9508's plant display, however, is the Barbee blossom, a singularly fetching bud that opened this spring.



An outstanding example of the Barbee plant, a species developed at K mart 9508.

Don't drink the water!

Greensboro, NC—**K mart 3294** reports an outbreak of pregnancy seizing its female employees. The drinking fountain near the ladies' lounge is suspected of being the contaminant. First signs of the affliction appear near the waistline, and eventually the cure increases the population.

Becky Botts, Beverly Hemric, Sandra Shumate and Gwen Wilborn have succumbed. Summer "cures" are expected.